

(b) and (c). Their application along with other applications received from units, both in the Public sector and the Private sector, is under the consideration of the Government.

DECLINE IN IMPORT OF MACHINERY

*232. SHRI K. P. MALLIKARJUNUDU : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a decline in the imports of machinery during the year 1968-69 and if so, to what extent;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the extent of the imports of machinery in the year 1969-70?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Yes, Sir. During the year 1968-69, the import of complete machinery and transport equipment declined to Rs. 190 crores from Rs. 260 crores in 1966-67 and Rs. 201 crores in 1967-68 representing a fall of 27% and 5% respectively.

(b) The fall in the import of machinery can be ascribed principally to the import substitution policy pursued by the Government over a period of years.

(c) During 1968-70, import of complete machinery and transport equipment was of the order of Rs. 177 crores.

ORISSA CHIEF MINISTER'S STATEMENT REGARDING THE LATE RECEIPT OF THE DERECOGNITION ORDER

*233. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement made by the Chief Minister of Orissa on the opening day of the Orissa Assembly on September, 14, that the Presidential Order regarding withdrawal of privileges had not been implemented as no instruction or postal confirmation copy of the telegram had been received from the Union Government;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to this Statement made by the Chief Minister of Orissa; and

(c) what steps were taken after the statement of the Chief Minister of Orissa to send postal confirmation and instruction relating to the Derecognition Order?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Government have seen the report appearing in the press on September 16, 1970.

(b) Telegrams were sent to all State Governments on 10th September, 1970, informing them that the privy purses and privileges of Rulers stood terminated with effect from the date of their derecognition. Copies of the telegrams were despatched by post the following day. Letters were also sent to the State Governments on the same subject on 24th September, 1970,

(c) Does not arise.

EXPANSION TRADE RELATIONS WITH G. D. R.

*234. SHRI BHOLA PRASAD : DR. Z. A. AHMAD : SHRI BALCHANDRA MENON :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the question of further expanding India's trade relations with German Democratic Republic has been considered by the Government of India; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b) In the context of the considerable growth of trade between India and G. D. R. in the last decade, the Government of India are constantly considering possibilities of further expansion of bilateral trade. Periodical trade talks, regular participation in the Leipzig Fair, greater exchange of business visits and contact at the level of enterprises and Chambers of Commerce between the two countries, have been among some of the steps taken in this direction.

PLANNING COMMISSION'S COMPLAINT AGAINST VARIOUS MINISTRIES

*235. SHRISITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a press report published in the Hindustan Times dated the 10th October, 1970 to the effect that Planning Commission had criticised the manner of the various Union Ministries in putting forward the proposals before the Commission under the Fourth Plan;